

## Session 121 - (2015-2016)

**S 0426 General Bill, By Sheheen, Hayes, Malloy and Allen**

***Similar (S 0209, H 3412)***

**Summary:** Mental Health Court Program Act

A BILL TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO COURTS, BY ADDING CHAPTER 31, TO ESTABLISH A MENTAL HEALTH COURT PROGRAM, TO PROVIDE FOR A SYSTEM THAT DIVERTS MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS TO APPROPRIATE TREATMENT PROGRAMS RATHER THAN INCARCERATION, TO PROVIDE FOR ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN MENTAL HEALTH COURT, TO PROVIDE THAT EXISTING MENTAL HEALTH COURTS ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT SHALL CONTINUE IN EXISTENCE, TO PROVIDE THAT EACH SOLICITOR MUST ESTABLISH A PROGRAM, TO PROVIDE FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR SERVICE AS A MENTAL HEALTH COURT JUDGE, TO PROVIDE THAT MENTAL HEALTH COURT JUDGES HAVE THE SAME PROTECTIONS FROM CIVIL LIABILITY AND IMMUNITY AS OTHER JUDICIAL OFFICERS IN THIS STATE; AND TO PROVIDE THAT SOLICITORS WHO ACCEPT STATE FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM MUST ESTABLISH IT WITHIN ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS.

<b>02/05/15</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 6)</b>
<b>02/05/15</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 6)</b>
<b>02/09/15</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Referred to Subcommittee: Massey (ch), Bennett, McElveen</b>
<b>03/18/15</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 12)</b>
<b>03/19/15</b>		<b>Scrivener's error corrected</b>
<b>03/26/15</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Committee Amendment Adopted (Senate Journal-page 26)</b>
<b>03/26/15</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Read second time (Senate Journal-page 26)</b>
<b>03/26/15</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Roll call Ayes-41 Nays-0 (Senate Journal-page 26)</b>
<b>03/27/15</b>		<b>Scrivener's error corrected</b>
<b>03/31/15</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Read third time and sent to House (Senate Journal-page 16)</b>
<b>04/14/15</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 32)</b>
<b>04/14/15</b>	<b>House</b>	<b>Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 32)</b>